

CLAIMS

What is claimed:

1. A computer subassembly, comprising:
 - a frame;
 - supports secured to the frame for inserting a plurality of information storage drives;
 - a bulkhead component mounted to the frame;
 - a plurality of bulkhead connectors mounted on the bulkhead component, each for engaging with a respective drive connector on a respective storage drive when the respective storage drive is inserted;
 - an electronic board;
 - a plurality of board connectors on the board, each board connector being connected to a respective bulkhead connector.
2. The computer subassembly of claim 1, wherein the bulkhead connectors and the board connectors are serial ATA connectors.
3. The computer subassembly of claim 2, further comprising:
 - a plurality of flexible signal cables interconnecting a respective board connector with a respective bulkhead connector.
4. The computer subassembly of claim 3, wherein the flexible cables are serial

ATA cables.

5. The computer subassembly of claim 1, wherein the bulkhead component has a plurality of mounting openings therein and each bulkhead connector forms part of a bulkhead connector assembly, each bulkhead connector assembly further including at least one formation on the bulkhead connector thereof, the formation having a retaining opening therein, the computer subassembly further comprising a plurality of fasteners, each fastener being inserted through a respective mounting and a respective retaining opening to mount a respective bulkhead connector assembly to the bulkhead component.

6. The computer subassembly of claim 5, wherein each bulkhead connector assembly includes at least two of said formations on opposing sides of the bulkhead connector thereof.

7. The computer subassembly of claim 1, further comprising:
a plurality of information storage storage drives held by the supports; and
a plurality of drive connectors, each on a respective storage drive and each mating with a respective bulkhead connector.

8. The computer subassembly of claim 1, further comprising:
a computer processor; and

a memory, the board connectors being coupled to the computer processor and the memory.

9. A computer subassembly, comprising:

a frame;

a bulkhead component, mounted to the frame, having a plurality of mounting openings;

a plurality of bulkhead connector assemblies, each including a bulkhead connector and a formation, on the bulkhead connector, defining a retaining opening;

a plurality of fasteners, each fastener being inserted through a respective mounting and a respective retaining opening to mount the respective bulkhead connector assembly to the bulkhead component;

supports on the frame for inserting a plurality of information storage drives, a respective drive connector on each respective storage drive mating with a respective bulkhead connector.

10. The computer subassembly of claim 9, further comprising:

an electronic board;

a plurality of board connectors on the board, each board connector being connected to a respective bulkhead connector.

11. The computer subassembly of claim 9, further comprising:
a plurality of flexible signal cables interconnecting a respective board connector with a respective bulkhead connector.
12. The computer subassembly of claim 9, further comprising:
a plurality of information storage drives held by the supports; and
a plurality of drive connectors, each on a respective storage drive and each mating with a respective bulkhead connector.
13. A computer subassembly, comprising:
a frame;
a bulkhead component mounted to the frame;
a plurality of serial ATA bulkhead connectors mounted on the bulkhead component;
supports secured to the frame;
a plurality of serial ATA storage drives, each inserted on a respective support;
a plurality of serial ATA drive connectors, each mounted to a respective serial ATA storage drive and each being connected to a respective serial ATA bulkhead connector due to insertion of the respective storage drive;
an electronic board;
a plurality of serial ATA board connectors on the board, each serial ATA board connector being individually connected to a respective serial ATA bulkhead

connector.

14. The computer subassembly of claim 13, further comprising:

a plurality of flexible signal cables interconnecting a respective board connector with a respective bulkhead connector.

15. The computer subassembly of claim 13, wherein the bulkhead component has a plurality of mounting openings therein and each serial ATA bulkhead connector forms part of a bulkhead connector assembly, each bulkhead connector assembly further including at least one formation on the bulkhead connector thereof, the formation having a retaining opening therein, the computer subassembly further comprising a plurality of fasteners, each fastener being inserted through a respective mounting and a respective retaining opening to mount a respective bulkhead connector assembly to the bulkhead component.

16. The computer subassembly of claim 15, wherein each bulkhead connector assembly includes at least two of said formations on opposing sides of the serial ATA bulkhead connector thereof.

17. A method of constructing a computer subassembly, comprising:

mounting a plurality of bulkhead connectors to a bulkhead component;
connecting each bulkhead connector individually to a respective board

connector on an electronic board; and

inserting a plurality of information storage drives on supports, a respective drive connector on each storage drive mating with a respective bulkhead connector on the bulkhead component.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein the bulkhead connectors are mounted to the bulkhead component by inserting fasteners through mounting and retaining openings respectively in the bulkhead component and in formations on each bulkhead connector.

19. The method of claim 17, wherein the bulkhead connectors and the board connectors are serial ATA connectors and the storage drives are serial ATA storage drives.